



## The Constitution.

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ATLANTA, GA., APRIL 21, 1881.

The Health care that Senator Dawes has injected into national affairs, is nine years old, and people in Louisiana where the case arose have forgotten it. The fact that Health remained silent nine years is not calculated to strengthen the belief that his troubles were strictly political.

The American delegations are preparing to send a strong delegation to the world's council of Methodism, which is to be held in London next September. The executive committee proposes to select persons who will worthily represent the strong western section of the church. All branches of the church are cordially co-operating. Bishop McTyre represents the church south in the executive committee that has charge of the whole matter.

The New Orleans authorities are taking steps to quarantine all vessels arriving from ports infected with yellow fever after the first of May. The state authorities are also disposed to co-operate in the operation of the national health board. This is a sensible course, and it will doubtless result in a healthy work towards a general result. New Orleans is safe from the disease if she will be alert and sensible. Let her keep her streets and hidden places clean, and put an end to the quarrels of the doctors and health officials.

The Political Unity of the South.

There is no subject better calculated to arouse into aggressive activity the stupidity of the average newspaper politician than the discussion of the situation known as "the solid south." At the north they are accustomed to deplore it—the partisan republicans maintaining that it is a standing menace to the country, and the more liberal republicans declaring that it is a condition altogether bad. The northern democrats weep and wring their hands, and say their party will never come into power until the solid south is broken, and some of the southern democrats—Mr. Lamar, for instance—are of the opinion that it is an evil for which some immediate remedy should be provided.

Speaking as a liberal and progressive democratic politician, at any rate, as Senator Lamar, THE CONSTITUTION is free to say that the most that has been written and said of the solid south is the purest bosh. The solid south is merely the effect of a cause, the result of a condition of affairs. Change this condition—remove this cause—and the result will disappear. According to the republicans and the anonymous alleged democrats who are in the habit of applying to Mr. Charles Nordhoff to be interviewed, there is no sort of excuse or reason for the unity of southern opinion and action in national politics. They are merely a willful and perverse people, who choose to oppose republicanism simply because they know their opposition will outrage the tender feelings of Logan, and Conkling, and Dawes, and Hoar, and other patriotic worthies who make their living by abusing and slandering the south. Now, this sort of thing is too stupid to be aggravating. When the representative of the south comes to the north and attacks people that republicanism is not an attack upon them, then the solid south will be no more. Remove the cause and the effect will disappear.

The republicans, professing to deplore the political unity of the southern people, never allow an opportunity of fostering it to pass by. Their bitterest men are placed at the front, and there is always a threat that they will inaugurate an oppressive policy. During the past month every set speech made in the name of the republicans has been charged with venom. Republican senators have appeared as the apostles of sectionalism, and they have taken advantage of the occasion to revamp all the old lies and slanders that have done service in so many campaigns. They can have no other purpose in this than the desire to give the south arguments for justifying its political unity. They reason that this unity is worth many votes to their party, and, again, and that therefore it is their duty to contribute something to that unity.

The solid south is a natural result of the efforts of the republican barons and sectionists to continue the discussion of the issues settled by the war, and as long as the republican party preaches the doctrines of sectionalism, it will be the solid south. But what of it? The Constitution has taken pains upon various occasions to impress upon its readers the fact that politics is not the chief end of man—particularly that strengthens the mind of politics which has for so many years formed the chief staple of the southern mind. The southern people are not anxious for political power nor are they office-seekers; and it is impossible to conceive how they can more worthily fulfill the requirements of honesty, decency and self respect than by continuing to be a unit in opposition to republicanism as it exists to-day. The partisans can put that in their pipe and smoke it.

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tons of the rolling mills, 16,430 tons; of the steel works, 5,729 tons, and of the forges and blast-furnaces, 520 tons. A comparison of the number of the various works is given below:

1870. 1871. 1872. 1873. 1874. 1875.

Blast furnace establishments..... 300 300 300 300 300 300

Hot furnaces..... 174 174 174 174 174 174

Steel works establishments..... 30 30 30 30 30 30

Forge and blast-furnace..... 118 118 118 118 118 118

The total production of the iron and steel works of the United States in the census year 1880 was 7,295,10 tons; in 1870 it was 3,215 tons; increase 5,080 tons, or 35.76 per cent. The president, country, locomotives, and rolling stock, and the production of each branch of iron and steel industries in 1870 and 1880.

Iron and steel Census year 1880. 1870.

Products. Net tons.

Iron and castings..... 6,662,921 2,303,218

All products of iron rolling..... 1,444,829 839,856

Blasted steel finished products..... 1,000 200

Steel products..... 30 72

Forge and blast-furnace..... 1,000 1,000

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